



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 25, 1998

S. 1637

Bounty Hunter Accountability and Quality Assistance Act of 1998

*As reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary
on September 17, 1998*

S. 1637 would direct the Attorney General, within 180 days of the bill's enactment, to publish in the Federal Register guidelines for state regulation of bounty hunters. States that adopt these guidelines would receive priority when applying for certain grants provided by the Department of Justice. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost less than \$500,000 in fiscal year 1999, assuming the availability of appropriated funds. S. 1637 would not affect direct spending or receipts, so pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 1637 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. CBO estimates that any costs incurred by states would not be significant; compliance with the provisions would assist states in receiving funds from the roughly \$500 million Edward Byrne Memorial Law Enforcement Assistance Grant Program.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Mark Grabowicz (for federal costs), and Lisa Cash Driskill (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Paul N. VandeWater, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.